



MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

September 2017 – The next regular MNS meeting will be held on September 21, 2017, 7 PM, at the Mayfair Mall Community Room. On Sunday October 1, MNS will host its annual one-day coin show at American Serb Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. Volunteers to help set-up the hall should arrive at 6 AM.

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Secretary: John Bleidorn
Sgt. at Arms: Jeff Gaffke
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Librarian: Joe Paonessa

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The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room on the lower level of Mayfair Mall (W. North Avenue at N. Mayfair Road). Our annual coin show is held in October.

September Coin of the Month: This month we offer a 1966 40% silver unc Kennedy Half Dollar, certified by PCGS to be MS-64. Here is a beautiful certified silver coin for your collection, now more than 50 years old! Starting bid only \$8.00



September 2017 MNS President's Message

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Not much has transpired since I wrote my message last month. The club had a successful outing at the Chudnow. A total of ten members and guests were in attendance, and we were treated to an excellent personalized tour throughout the museum by a very knowledgeable tour guide. Please look for pictures of the outing elsewhere in this newsletter.

If you are going to be at the September meeting please remember to sign up as a volunteer for the quickly approaching MNS coin show. We are in need of volunteers in all areas from set-up, raffle ticket sales, check-in table and tear down. Please remember that everyone volunteering a total of four hours at the show will be rewarded with a complimentary banquet ticket.

Speaking of the banquet, if you do plan to attend please let Jim H. know of your meal preference so that he can get the order placed. Our keynote speaker this year is going to be none other than our very own Tom Casper. He will be presenting to us on the history of Milwaukee postcards and the scenes they depict. A volunteer to house the club's display cases is still needed as Tom D. has made it quite clear that the last day he is housing the cases will be the night before the show. These do not take up very much square footage in the back of a garage or backyard storage shed. You would be doing the club a great favor by volunteering. Please let me know by the next meeting if you are able to assist the club in this capacity.

Please consider bringing something to the next meeting for show and tell since we do not have any sort of formal programming planned. Also, it is not too early to start thinking ahead to the coming officer elections and possibly throwing your hat in the ring. We are always looking for candidates for all positions, particularly this year for treasurer and vice president. We will also be having another club auction this fall so please begin compiling lots from your collection for consignment.

I hope that everyone had a great Labor Day holiday closing out their summer and that you will enjoy the cooler autumn months ahead!

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.613.9996

MN\$ 2017

Schedule

Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Jan 19:	Officer Inductions
Feb 16:	Open
March 16:	Rev. Paul Bulgerin: Numismatic Archaeology
April 20:	Dave Hunsicker: Milwaukee Transportation Collectables
April 27:	CSNS Bus Trip (8 AM-5 PM)
May 18:	Spring Auction
June 15:	Expanded Show and Tell
July 20:	Tom Casper: Collecting, Buying, and Selling on E-Bay
Aug 17:	NO MEETING
Aug 19:	Summer Outing at Chudnow Museum of Yesteryear (10 AM) 839 N. 11 th Street, Milwaukee
Sept 21:	Open
Oct 19:	Raffle Ticket Prize Drawing
Nov 16:	Autumn Auction; Election Slate
Dec 21:	Holiday Party; Officer Elections

Annual Dues

Dues for 2017 are \$10. Please pay Leon A. at the next meeting, or they may be mailed to MNS, PO Box 241174, Milwaukee, WI 53224. Thanks to those who have paid.

2017 Numismatic Events

September 24	Loves Park, IL Coin Show 1601 West Lane Road Forest Hill Lodge: 9-3 PM
October 1	MNS Coin Show, Serb Hall 9 AM – 4 PM
October 21	MNS Banquet, Alioto's Drinks at 6:00 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM

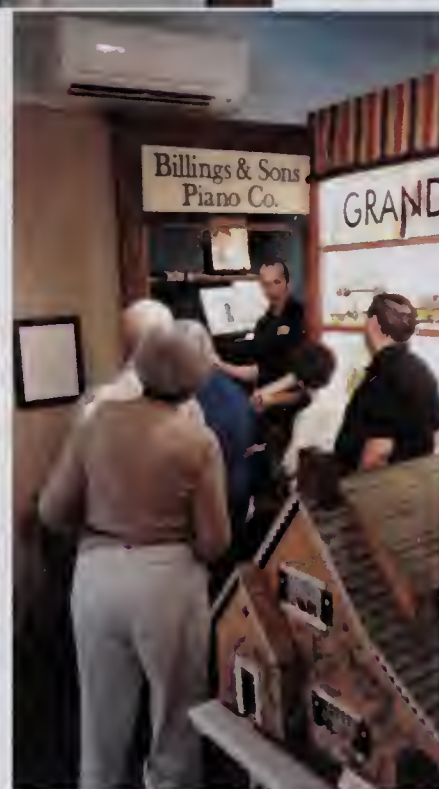
Refreshment Schedule

Jan:	Dave Herrwig
Feb:	Jim Heinrich
Mar:	John Bleidorn
Apr:	Tom Dallmann
May:	Justin Perrault
Jun:	None
Jul:	Gary Bieringer
Aug:	NO MEETING
Sep:	Don Kaminski
Oct:	Pam Talmadge
Nov:	Open
Dec:	Holiday Party

PLEASE NOTE:

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, helpers to work at events, and someone to bring refreshments for the meetings. We are also looking for ideas for club outings. MNS will reimburse refreshment expenses up to \$60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make this club a success.

Scenes from the Club Outing at the Chudnow Museum of Yesteryear on August 19



Arrests made in \$1 million coin theft

Members of an organized crime family of Lebanese refugees living in Germany have been arrested, accused of the theft of a Canada \$1 million gold coin from the Bode Museum in Berlin.

On the early morning of July 12, about 300 officers searched 14 different properties in the Neukölln district of Berlin in search of the massive 100-kilogram (221-pound) 0.99999 fine gold \$1 million Canadian coin. Five vehicles, four guns, clothing, shoes and what has been described as a “six figure-range” amount of cash was seized. The clothing seized is being examined for traces of gold.

The search included an Arabic jewelry shop, according to the newspaper *Tagesspiegel*. Unfortunately, the coin had not been recovered at the time this article was being written.

Berlin State Criminal Office spokesman Carsten Pfohl said, “We are assuming that the coin was in part or in whole sold off. I unfortunately have relatively little hope that we will find the coin, even in pieces.”

Pfohl said it is likely an Arab jeweler in the Sonnenallee helped destroy the coin, then sell it for its intrinsic value (which is about \$4 million US).

The “R” family members arrested are described as “brothers, cousins and sons.” (According to German law, the surnames of suspects are not permitted to be made public.) Three of the men are aged 18, 19 and 20. The fourth was a security guard at the museum.

German media refers to these criminal families as “Arab clans.” A recently released television drama called “Four Blocks” is about the Berlin organized crime scene. Sources suggested there could be as many as 10 of these organized crime families in the Neukölln district of Berlin. This could involve anywhere from a few hundred to perhaps as many as 10,000 individuals living throughout Germany.

These criminals have until recently specialized in drugs, prostitution



Several individuals are under arrest for the theft of a Canada 220-pound giant gold \$1 million coin.

and high-profile robberies. In 2009 the well-known KaDeWe department store in Berlin was robbed of about 7 million euros’ value in jewelry, none of which has ever been recovered.

A 40-point plan to combat these groups was published by Tom Schreiber, Berlin State Parliament social democrat representative.

“This matter with the gold coin – it firstly showed the excellent investigative work of the police and the state prosecutors, but it also showed how these people can plunder the state,” said Schreiber.

Ralph Ghadban is a Lebanese social worker and author who has researched these organized crime groups. According to Ghadban, “Up until now, they almost never found the loot, and they won’t find the gold this time ... And if the people end up in prison for a few years – if they get 3.7 million euros – it’ll have been worth it.”

Ghadban spoke of the young age of the men arrested: “They always seem to find a judge who’ll prosecute them under youth law.”

There are 13 other suspects. Ghadban called them “the masterminds and planners – well, you have to find them first

and prove that they’re involved. The ones they have arrested won’t betray them.”

German State Prosecutor Martina Lamb told reporters that the conspiracy was sophisticated and far-reaching, that the 13 other suspects in total were “out of the circle of Arab clans.”

The March 27 robbery may have been the third attempt to steal the massive coin. The thieves entered through an elevated railroad platform behind the museum, using a ladder to get in through a window. The museum has more than 500,000 items, which makes it one of the largest coin collections in the world.

The coin has a diameter of 20.9 inches and was said to be carried out in a wheelbarrow. It was one of five replicas of “The Big Maple Leaf” produced by the Royal Canadian Mint in 2007. The five additional coins were made on demand following the unveiling of what was at the time expected to be a unique coin.

The coin depicts a profile image of Queen Elizabeth II on the obverse, with a twig of maple leaves on the reverse.

When asked why the RCM would make such a coin a spokesman for the mint rhetorically replied, “Because we can.”

Berlin State Criminal Office spokesman Carsten Pfohl said, “We are assuming that the coin was in part or in whole sold off. I unfortunately have relatively little hope that we will find the coin, even in pieces.”

Canadian coins celebrate 150 years

By Kerry Rodgers

Since Jan. 1 Canada's 150th birthday celebrations have been in full swing. No more so is this apparent than at the Royal Canadian Mint. During the course of this year the Mint plans to release over 40 different products to mark the 150 years that have elapsed since four provinces of British North America confederated to form the Dominion of Canada in 1867.

Several new celebratory issues were launched in late 2016. The first consisted of a 30 mm, 31.6 g .9999 fine gold \$200 proof "150 Years of Passion." The reverse reproduces the maple wreath design used on Canada's first coins.

Then in December came the selectively gold-plated, frosted .9999 fine silver proof set, "Canada 150: Our Home and Native Land." This contained new 5 cents to \$2 circulation coins along with a 50 cents bearing the official maple leaf "CANADA 150" mosaic logo used to symbolize the present confederation.

Included in the same set was a commemorative 36.07 mm, 23.17 g silver dollar proof whose reverse design by Jamie Desrochers shows a large "150" backgrounded by a map of Canada and the country's flag. This dollar has been produced in several versions throughout the year. These include selective gold plating and red enameling.

Last November saw the first releases of a sesquicentenary subscription series. The 13 coins involved represent each of the 10 provinces and 3 territories that make up Canada 2017. Each reverse image is inspired by a photograph from a magazine and is reproduced in color. Each coin is a 34 mm, 15.87 (1/2oz) .9999 fine silver, colorized \$10 matte proof with a mintage of 25,000.

First coin in the series showed Canada's favorite bird: the Common Loon. It was followed by Kayaking on the River in December, the Lighthouse at Peggy's Cove in January, a Great Blue Heron in February and a Canola Field in March.

Later issues include Float Planes on the Mackenzie River, Grizzly Bear, Panmure Island, Aurora Borealis at McIntyre Creek, Wild Swift Fox and Pup, Peyto Lake, Iceberg at Dawn and Drum Dancing.

A proof silver \$10 surfaced in early January. The reverse of the 34 mm, 15.87 g .9999 fine silver specimen is a direct take on George Kruger-Gray's iconic



The first of Canada's 150th birthday celebratory coin: 30 mm, 31.6 g .9999 fine gold \$200 proof. The reverse pays homage to a the common design that graced Canada's first circulation coins (KM-2 to KM-6). Image courtesy RCM.



The reverse of Canada's 2017 commemorative 50 cents displays Ariana Cuvin's maple leaf mosaic representing the Confederation. The four diamond shapes connected to the stem symbolize the four original provinces that joined in 1867 (Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia). The remaining 9 shapes represent the provinces and territories that have followed since. Image courtesy RCM.



Two of the several versions of Jamie Desrochers' commemorative silver dollar: "Canada 150: Our Home and Native Land". Left selectively gold-plated; right red enameled. Images courtesy RCM.

George Kruger-Gray's iconic reverse design of the Canadian cent, right, features on this 34 mm, 1/2 oz silver BU \$10. Image courtesy RCM.





Three of the releases from "Canada's 150" subscription coin series in which each \$10 coin represents one the 10 provinces and 3 territories. From left: Common Loon, Iceberg at Dawn, Drum Dancing. Images courtesy RCM.

Numerous glow-in-the-dark coins figure among the "150" commemoratives.



Canadian cent showing a twig with two leaves. (Those two leaves are officially described as maple but arborists insist that as they alternate along the twig they are those of a sycamore plane. However, let's not rain on Canada's parade.)

One of the more spectacular issues from a numismatic point of view was a 102.1 mm, 1,000 g .9999 fine silver ultra-high relief \$250. The reverse displays a scattered pile of circulation coins used in Canada for the last 150 years. Each coin is reproduced true-to-size. Each obverse and reverse is shown in original detail with all the effigies of Canada's assorted monarchs since confederation present and correct. To accommodate all 35 coins has required 4.4 mm of relief compared with the standard 1.2 mm of a conventional 1 kilo silver coin. Mintage is 500.

Numerous glow-in-the-dark coins figure among the "150" commemoratives. Mid-year saw a 27 mm, 7.96 g .9999 fine silver "Proudly Canadian" \$5. It featured the Canadian maple leaf flag in full color flying against a firework-lit background. It is those fireworks that do the glowing.

The coin comes with a sterling silver pendant necklace-making kit. The mintage is amusingly given as, "while supplies last".

Several large silver coins show historic themes. A 76.25 mm, 311.54 g (10

Thirty-five of Canada's circulating coins from the past 150 years feature full size on this ultra-high relief (4.4 mm) 1 kilo silver \$250. Images courtesy RCM.





The 54 mm, 62.67 g .9999 fine silver colored \$30 issued to mark this year's Canada Day. In daylight the reverse shows the crowd, clad in red and white naturally, celebrating on Parliament Hill during a fly-past by The Snowbirds. When viewed under a black light (supplied) the scene turns to night to show the grand firework finale. Image courtesy RCM.



Huge 10-ounce silver \$100 proof recalls the actual Confederation of 1867. The obverse shows both Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II, the two Canadian monarchs in 1867 and 2017, respectively. The reverse is taken from the 1867 Confederation medal executed by J.S. and A.B. Wyon. Britannia presents the young maidenly avatars of the four Canadian provinces with the British North American Act. Clockwise from the top: Ontario with a sickle and sheaf; Quebec holding a canoe paddle; Nova Scotia with a shovel; New Brunswick with an axe. Images courtesy RCM.



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oz) .9999 fine silver \$100 proof harks back to the actual confederation in 1867. The double-effigy obverse portrays both Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II, the two Canadian monarchs in 1867 and 2017, respectively.

The reverse design is taken from the 1867 Confederation medal by Royal Mint engravers J.S. and A.B. Wyon. Britannia, representing Great Britain, is seated, clad in full armor and accompanied by her faithful lion. She is presenting young avatars of the four Canadian provinces with the British North American Act. The legend reads JUVENTAS ET PATRIUS VIGOR [Youth and patriotic strength].

A second 10 oz silver proof recalls the Confederation's Diamond Jubilee in 1927. It has the same obverse as above. The reverse features an update by Charles William Jefferys of the original Raymond Delamarre design for the Diamond Jubilee of the Confederation of Canada medal. Allegorical Canada stands with arms spread wide among sheaves of wheat and clusters of maple leaves. Behind her a map of the Dominion of Canada is marked by transcontinental railroad links along with the shield from Royal Arms of Canada as of 1927. The Canadian motto A MARI USQUE AD MARE reads "From sea to sea."

Also from 1927 comes a three-coin set showing unused coin designs. A cent



Reverse of second 10-ounce silver \$100 proof this time evoking the Confederation's Diamond Jubilee in 1927. The design is an update of the Diamond Jubilee Confederation of Canada Medal. Allegorical Canada stands with arms spread wide A MARI USQUE AD MARE [From sea to sea]. Images courtesy RCM.



Unused design from 1927 Diamond Jubilee 5 cents: the crowned British lion stands proud while firmly clutching a maple leaf. Image courtesy RCM.

features an Art Nouveau bough of maple leaves, a 5 cent shows a crowned lion gripping a maple leaf, and a 25 cents displays the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill.

For those who may not be fully up to speed with matters north of the 49th parallel, the four British colonies that united to form the Dominion of Canada on July 1, 1867, were Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Ontario and Quebec came into being at the same time by way of division of the former United Province

of Canada.

Over the next 132 years nine other territorial units joined the federation: Manitoba and Northwest Territories in 1870, British Columbia in 1871, Prince Edward Island in 1873, Yukon Territory (Yukon) in 1898, Saskatchewan in 1905, Newfoundland (=Newfoundland+Labrador) in 1949 and Nunavut in 1999.

For full details of the above and future coin issues keep a weather eye on the RCM website: www.mint.ca.